



NEWS RELEASE

04-248

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District: 8 - Inland Empire

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blaine St. Lane Closure Set for Utility Relocation

RIVERSIDE - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) advises motorists that a lane closure on Blaine Street near John North High School has been called in order to allow SBC to remove a utility line from the Blaine Street Overcrossing at Interstate 215 (I-215). The closure will be in effect 24 hours a day beginning Monday, Nov. 15. The work to relocate some of SBC's telecommunications wiring and cable could cause a closure of one of two eastbound lanes on Blaine Street in the area of Iowa Avenue and the high school for approximately two weeks.

Part of the \$317 million improvement to the interchange of the 60/91/215 freeways, the utility will be removed from the structure and placed under I-215. The resulting closure to Blaine Street will occur on the eastbound side of the bridge. Motorists who normally use this stretch of Blaine Street, along with parents and students, who utilize the roadway to access the school, are advised to plan ahead and use neighboring local streets during the closure period. Caltrans is working with the school to provide safety advisory notices for the students and bus drivers whose routes traverse the area.

Work on the 60/91/215 Improvement Project began last February and is expected to continue through 2007. When completed, new freeway-to-freeway connectors and bridges for local streets to cross over the freeway will replace the existing facility.

For updates on the 60/91/215 Improvement Project, call Caltrans directly at 1-866-60-91-215. Photographs of the construction process are frequently updated and can be viewed at http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/6091215project_pics_pg.htm. Planned lane closures for the entire project are updated weekly and can be viewed by accessing the Web site <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/schedule.htm>.

Caltrans advises motorists to always drive carefully around construction sites. Always, be alert, stay smart and ***Slow for the Cone Zone.***

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